

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10208 271658Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 IO-13 RSR-01

/153 W

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R 271548Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1476

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10208

CINCPAC FOR PLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, I, UR

SUBJ: HANDLING THE SOVIET ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY
PROPOSAL

REF: NEW DELHI 9899

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 10208 271658Z

1. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE SOME THOUGHTS ON

THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN (REFTEL).

2. THE CURRENT SOVIET DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IS CLEARLY AIMED AT SHOWING THAT ONLY CHINA STANDS IN THE WAY OF RELAXATION IN ASIA. LINING UP OTHER COUNTRIES AS FAVORING IN PRINCIPLE THE SOVIET IDEA IS THE MAIN TACTIC. THE SOVIETS HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH FORMULATIONS WHICH STRESS THAT ALL COUNTRIES MUST PARTICIPATE IN A SYSTEM OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, BECAUSE THEIR PRESENT OBJECTIVE IS NOT THE CREATION OF A SYSTEM NOR EVEN THE CONVENING OF A CONFERENCE, BUT SHOWING UP THE CHINESE AS RECALCITRANTS.

3. WE STRONGLY URGE THAT THE U.S. NOT BE CAUGHT IN ACT OF TRYING TO SANDBAG SOVIET IDEA; THIS WOULD BE A BIG BOON TO SOVIET PROPAGANDA OBJECTIVES. (WORSE, OF COURSE, WOULD BE EVEN IMPLICIT U.S. ENDORSEMENT OF THE IDEA.)

4. ASIAN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE AT ALL INTERESTED IN PLYING OFF CHINA AGAINST USSR ARE ALREADY ALERT TO THE PITFALLS OF THE SOVIET GAMBIT. PERHAPS THEY COULD USE SOME SUGGESTIONS ON TACTICS, HOWEVER. WHEN INDIANS, JAPANESE OR OTHERS GIVE AN OPENING TO U.S. REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THE MATTER, A USEFUL DIDACTIC DEVICE MIGHT BE TO REFER TO EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE. IN DECADES PRIOR TO RIPENING OF CSCE, EASTERN ALLIES CONSISTENTLY WELCAMED THE SEARCH FOR EUROPEAN SECURITY BUT INSISTED THAT THE BASIC CAUSES OF INSECURITY (E.G., BERLIN) HAD TO BE SETTLED FIRST THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OR AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED. ONE OBVIOUS DIFFERENCE IS THAT NATO ALLIES AGREED ON THE QUID PRO QUO FOR DISCUSSING POSSIBLE CSCE, WHEREAS EACH ASIAN COUNTRY MAY TEND TO FOCUS ON ITS OWN DESIDERATA. THUS THE BASIC IDEA WHICH U.S. MIGHT TRY TO PLANT IS THAT ASIAN COUNTRIES SHOULD QUALIFY ANY ENDORSEMENT OF A GENERAL APPEAL FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM WITH A REFERENCE TO NEED FOR BILATERAL SOLUTION OF THOSE MAJOR PROBLEMS (INCLUDING SINO-SOVIET PROBLEMS) WHICH GIVE RISE TO INSECURITY.

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 10208 271658Z

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